

Monterey Office:

19 Upper Ragsdale Drive
Suite 200
P.O. Box 3140
Monterey, CA 93942

Voice 831.649.8800
Facsimile 831.649.8835

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GRUBMAN
& PAYNE**

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FACSIMILE COVER SHEET

TO: Examiner Greg Toatley **FAX:** (571) 273-2059

FROM: May Lin DeHaan **DATE:** January 30, 2004

RE: U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/735,697
Entitled: "Apparatus and Method for Powering Multiple Peripheral Devices
from a Color-Coded Central Power Source"
Filed: December 12, 2000
Our Docket No. P1230

CONFIDENTIAL

Please see the attached Informal Response to Office Action.

MLD/pa

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PATENT
Docket No. P1230

INFORMAL RESPONSE PLEASE DO NOT ENTER

IN THE
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: NOEL LEE

SERIAL NO.: 09/735,697

EXAMINER: GREG TOATLEY

FILED: DECEMBER 12, 2000

ART UNIT: 2836

FOR: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR POWERING MULTIPLE
PERIPHERAL DEVICES FROM A COLOR-CODED CENTRAL
POWER SOURCE

MAIL STOP NON-FEE AMENDMENT
COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, DC 20231

INFORMAL AMENDMENT RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION UNDER 37 CFR § 1.111

To the Commissioner:

This letter is an Informal Response to the non-final Office Action, dated November 28, 2003. The Applicant is hereby respectfully requesting favorable consideration of the following proposed amendment and remarks, under 37 CFR § 1.111.

AMENDMENT

In the Claims: **Kindly cancel Claims 41-48, without prejudice; and kindly add new Claims 49-76 as follows.**

49. (new) An AC electrical power strip apparatus, the apparatus comprising:
an input power cord member;
a power strip having an electrical distribution main electrically coupled to the input
power cord member;
5 a plurality of electrical output receptacle sets electrically coupled to the main, each
receptacle set defining an AC electrical outlet circuit surrounded by an outlet
body structure; and
a housing member, the housing member having means for receiving an end of the input
power cord member and for providing a secure insulated housing for the
10 receptacle sets, the housing member having means for partitioning access to,
and for facilitating electrical engagement with, a corresponding receptacle set
including the outlet body structure surrounding the circuit, and each outlet body
structure having a distinct color.

50. (new) An AC electrical power strip apparatus, as recited in claim 49,
wherein the partitioning and facilitating means includes means for identifying a
corresponding peripheral device to be electrically engaged to the corresponding
receptacle set, and
wherein the identifying means includes an indicia corresponding to each corresponding
peripheral device.

51. (new) An AC electrical power strip apparatus, as recited in claim 50, wherein a
plurality of solid colored stickers is provided, including a sticker for selective
attachment to a corresponding electrical cord providing power to each corresponding
peripheral device utilizing the power strip, the sticker having a color matching that of
5 each corresponding outlet body structure to be utilized for powering each
corresponding peripheral device.